(b) To increase export of marine products during Eighth Five Year Plan period, the following steps are being taken :

(i) Development of capture fisheries.

(ii) Bringing more areas under aquaculture.

(iii) Increasing the per hectare yield from shrimp farms.

(iv) Developing culture production of other exportable items.

(v) Induction of new technology and value addition.

(vi) Modernising of processing facilities, quality up-gradation and reduction in waste.

Relaxation in Pre-shipment Inspection Policy for Export

667. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE :

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) wheter total removal or relaxation in pre-shipment inspection policy for export of goods is under consideration of Government ; and

(b) if so, what are the goods that would be covered under the new policy with conditions, if any, that may go with it ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Consumer items to go off nagative list soon

668. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Consumer items to go off negative li soon" which appeared in The Econom Times of the 5th April, 1992 ;

(b) whether any list of such consume items has been short-listed ; and

(c) what are the details of such iten to be off negative list ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF TH MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI I CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Under the Export and Impo Policy (1992—97), consumer goods a under restraint. The intention of th Government is to keep the Negative Li of Imports under review and to prune th List from time to time as exports gathe momentum and the economy gains strengt

अखबारी कागज की खरीद और अवमूल्यन के पश्चात् उसका भुगतान

669. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव :** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि रुपये का अवमूल्यन होने से पूर्व अखबारी कागज खरीदा गया थ और उसका भुगतान अवमूल्यन के बाद किया गय जिसके परिणामस्वरूप सरकार को अधिक रुपयों का भुगतान करना पड़ा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो यह अखबारी कागज कितनी मात्रा में है तथा इसे कितने रुपए मूल्य में खरीदा गया था;

(ग) अवमूल्यन के पश्चात् कितनी अतिरिक्त धनराशि का भुगतान करना पड़ा था; और

(घ) इस संबंध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी चिदम्बरम्) : (क) और (ग) अखबारी कागज के आयात के लिये राज्य व्यापार निग

द्वारा अल्पावधि विदेशी मुद्रा ऋण लिये गये थे। इन देयताओं का भुगतान निश्चित तारीख पर किया गया था जो अवमूल्यन अवधि से पूर्व था और जिसके फलस्वरूप 60.63 करोड़ रु० की अतिरिक्त रूपया लागत का भार पड़ा।

(ख) दिनांक 1-7-91 की स्थिति के अनुसार 1.55 लाख मी० टन अखबारी कागज के लिये विदेशी मुद्रा में 91.68 मिलियन (एफ ओ बी मूल्य) अमरीकी डालर ऋण बकाया थे।

(घ) अखबारी कागज उद्योग के सदस्यों के साथ विचार-विमर्शों के अनुसरण में उद्योग ने अतिरिक्त रूपया लागत में से 29.20 करोड़ रु० को वहन करने पर सहमति व्यक्त की थी।

Looking After the EXIM by the Director of M.M.T.C.

670. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item published in the Financial Express of the 13th April, 1992 under the caption "Bureaucracy takes over M.M.T.C." pointing out that the Interim Chairman-cum-Managing Director who is an Additional Secretary in his Ministry has asked the Directors of the Corporation to look after import and export irrespective of their expertise which *prima-facie* looks irrational and unprofessional;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that present team of Directors of M.M.T.C. were selected by P.E.S.B. and the appointments made for specific jobs; and

(d) if so, what is reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Government has seen the news item under reference.

(b) The distribution of work amongst the existing Directors as well as the two new Directors who joined MMTC on 31-3-1992 and 1-4-1992, has been done by the acting Chairman-cum-Managing Director, MMTC in line with the earlier practice, the experience and potential of the Directors and the need to give the necessary thrust to export promotion efforts. In doing so, the specific areas of responsibility indicated in the appointment orders of the respective Directors have been retained with them.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) CMD, MMTC, by virtue of having been delegated full powers by the MMTC Board through a resolution to exercise powers vested with the Board of Directors for conducting the day-to-day affairs of the Corporation subject to observance of the provisions of the Companies Act and Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Corporation, is competent to allocate/reallocate work amongst the functional Directors.

Impact of rupee convertibility on exporters porters

671. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether partial convertibility of rupee could act against the interest of exporters more than in the case of Exim Scrips;

(b) if so, how Government propose to protect their interest so that their exporting zeal remain unabated;

(c) whether export promotion will not be hindered if inflation continues unabated; and

(d) how far fiscal policies are helpful for export promotion?